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MOX-K- 9795

23 July 1951

Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

Foreign Division, M

FRUENDEL Torpedo Exploder

Ref: WASH-46415, MOXA-29263

1. There has been much discussion with the Department of the Navy concerning FRUENDEL's torpedo exploder, and you have been advised from time to time of comments received verbally from the Navy. The final, and only formal, communication from the Chief of the Bureau of Ordnance reads as follows:

"The Bureau of Ordnance has some data on this exploder though more data is available on its predecessor "Pi-C".

"The Bureau of Ordnance desires to procure five or six exploders for research purposes if the cost can be reduced below the figures proposed in reference A." (These were the figures given in MOXA-29263.) "Funds to the extent of \$25,000 can be made available for these units together with descriptive materials, manufacturing license rights and one electrical test set or check-out meter (with appropriate connectors). Since Leuchtfish is an improvement on "Pi-O" and all twenty of the original Leuchtfish models were destroyed, there is sufficient justification for moderate expenditures to get working units of this device before knowledge of this phase of exploder art is lost entirely."

2. These figures are considerably below those demanded by FRUENDEL. However, we believe from conversations with various Navy personnel that if FRUENDEL can be induced to reduce his demands the Navy may be willing to allocate additional funds for the purchase of the exploder. Our own feelings based on Navy Department reactions are that FRUENDEL's terms are not exorbitant. However, there seems little likelihood of meeting his original proposition.

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